

STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL

NTB CONTROL
NUMBER 96-012

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The preparing activity must complete blocks 1,2, 3, and 8. In block 1, both the document number and revision letter should be given.
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I RECOMMEND A CHANGE:

1. DOCUMENT NUMBER
MIL-STD-2500A

2. DOCUMENT DATE (YYMMDD)
941012

3. DOCUMENT TITLE

NATIONAL IMAGERY TRANSMISSION FORMAT (VERSION 2.0) FOR THE NITFS

NATURE OF CHANGE *(Identify paragraph number and include proposed rewrite, if possible. Attach extra sheets as needed.)*

Change appendix B as shown on the attached sheets .

5. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

ISMC Action Item 96-006

6. SUBMITTER

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JITC/JTCB

02 April 1996

MIL-STD-2500

APPENDIX B

(Proposed Change, Rev 3, 04/02/95)

TAGGED RECORD EXTENSIONS

B.1 SCOPE

B.1.1 Scope. This appendix contains information about the definition, registration and control of tagged record extensions (tags) used within NITF 2.0 files. This appendix is a mandatory part of the standard. The information contained herein is intended for compliance.

B.2 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

CIO/xxxxxxx NITFS Tagged Record Extensions Register.

Implementors and acquiring agencies should contact the NTB Registrar to identify the current issue(s) of the tagged record extensions and associated documentation applicable to their specific requirements. Otherwise, the documents listed in section 2 of this standard apply to this appendix.

The NITFS tagged Record Extensions Register is maintained as a World Wide Web on-line document. Access can be obtained through the following Universal Resource Locators (URLs):

<http://jitic-emh.army.mil/nitf/nitf.htm>

<http://www.tasc.com/NITFS/>

<http://www.itsi.disa.mil/ismc/index.html>

<http://www.itsi.disa.mil/ismc/ntb/ntb.html>

B.3 DEFINITIONS

B.3.1 Acronyms used in this appendix. The acronyms in section 3 of this standard apply to this appendix. Additional acronyms that apply to this appendix are:

RETAG - Registered Extension Tag.

CETAG - Controlled Extension Tag.

DESTAG - Data Extension Segment Tag.

RESTAG - Reserved Extension Segment Tag.

B.3.2 Definitions used in this standard. The definitions in section 3 of this standard apply

to this appendix. Additional definitions that apply to this appendix are:

- a. Registered Extension Tag. Those tagged record extensions for which the extension type identifier (six character RETAG field) and the user-defined data (REDATA field) structure is registered with the NTB. The user-defined data (REDATA field) structure is not controlled by the NTB.
- b. Controlled Extension Tag. Those tagged record extensions which are submitted for approval by the NTB and are then maintained under formal configuration management control. Both the extension type identifier (six character CETAG field) and the user-defined data (CEDATA field) structure is under configuration management control.
- c. Data Extension Segment Tag. A type of encapsulated extension with sub-header and data fields structured similarly to the standard data types in the NITF (e.g. image, label, symbol, text). The extension type identifier (25 character DESTAG field), the version (two character DESVER field), and the full underlying structure is under configuration management control as registered with the NTB.
- d. Reserved Extension Segment Tag. A type of encapsulated extension reserved for future use once defined within the NITFS.

B.4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

B.4.1 Registration. All tagged record extensions (RETAGs, CETAGs, DESTAGs, and RESTAGs) shall be registered with the NITFS Technical Board (NTB) before use within NITF 2.0 files.

B.4.2 Registrar. The Central Imagery Office (CIO) is the designated registrar. The Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) serves as the executive agent to CIO for oversight of registration activities and maintaining the register. The contact information for the NTB registrar is:

Director, Central Imagery Office	Commander, Joint Interoperability Test Command
ATTN: STSD/SESD/SB	ATTN: NITFS Certification Test Facility
8401 Old Courthouse Road	Building 57305
Vienna, VA 22182-3820	Fort Huachuca, AZ 85616-7020
(703) 275-5650	(520) 538-5458

B.4.3 Registration Submissions. Submissions for registering tagged record extensions shall include the following:

- Identification of the submitting organization and point of contact for the submission.
- Identification of the preparing organization and point of contact for the preparing activity.
- Purpose and general description of the proposed tag(s).

- Rationale and justification for including the submission within the NITFS.
- Copy of the documentation defining the tagged record extension to be registered.
- For RETAGS only, analysis and rationale describing how use of the proposed RETAG will not adversely impact community use of the standardized features defined within the NITFS.

B.5 DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

B.5.1 Registered Tags.

- a. Only those RETAGs accepted and registered by the NTB shall be used.
- b. RETAGs shall not be used nor submitted for registration if they adversely impact the utility of the standard features otherwise defined within the NITFS and its controlled extensions.
- c. Nominated RETAGs will be recorded in the ‘Register’ upon approval by the NTB. At that time, a RETAG expiration date (typically two years from registration) will be established by the NTB and recorded. A RETAG(s) proponent may submit a request for registration renewal to the NTB, or a request for the RETAG(s) to become “controlled,” prior to expiration of the tag’s registration. Otherwise, the RETAG(s) will be removed from the Register.
- d. A sequence of RETAGs may appear in the NITF header User Defined Header Data (UDHD) field or any image sub-header User Defined Image Data (UDID) field.
- e. When the RETAG carries data that is associated with a file as a whole, it shall appear in the UDHD field. If the RETAG carries data associated with an image data item in the file, it shall appear in the UDID field of that specific image data item.
- f. RETAGs may appear in a “Registered Extensions” DES when sufficient space is not available in the appropriate UDHD or UDID fields.
- g. Upon receipt of a file which contains RETAGs, a NITFS compliant system shall at least ignore the RETAGs and properly interpret the other legal components of the NITF file.

B.5.2 Controlled Tags.

- a. Only those CETAGs accepted and registered by the NTB shall be used.
- b. A sequence of CETAGs may appear in the Extended Header Data (EHD) field of the NITF file header, or in the Extended Sub-header Data field for any standard data type item in the file.

c. When the CETAG carries data that is associated with the file as a whole, it shall appear in the EHD field. If the CETAG carries data associated with a standard data item in the file, it shall appear in the Extended Sub-header Data field of that specific data item.

d. CETAGs may appear in a “Controlled Extensions” DES when sufficient space is not available in the appropriate EHD or Extended Sub-header Data fields.

e. Upon receipt of a file which contains CETAGs, a NITFS compliant system shall at least ignore the CETAGs and properly interpret the other legal components of the NITF file.

B.5.3 Data Extension Segments.

a. Only those DESTAGs accepted and registered by the NTB shall be used.

b. Upon receipt of a file which contains DESTAGs, a NITFS compliant system shall at least ignore the CETAGs and properly interpret the other legal components of the NITF file.

B.5.3.1 “Registered Extensions” DES. This DES is used when a series of RETAGS is to appear in a DES as “overflow” from the NITF file header or any sub-header. The format and use of the “Registered Extensions” DES is as described in paragraph 5.9.1.3.

B.5.3.2 “Controlled Extensions” DES. This DES is used when a series of CETAGs is to appear in a DES as “overflow” from the NITF file header or any sub-header. The format and use of the “Controlled Extensions” DES is as described in paragraph 5.9.1.3.

B.5.4 Reserved Extension Segments.

a. RESTAGs are currently undefined and shall not be used.

b. Upon receipt of a file which contains RESTAGs, a NITFS compliant system shall at least ignore the RESTAGs and properly interpret the other legal components of the NITF file. (This requirement will ease future transition for use of RESTAGs.)